WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Setting up an atomic energy plant at Banswara, Rajasthan

†1022. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider to set up four units of one thousand megawatt each at Raughat in Karauli district besides setting up an atomic energy plant at Banswara in Rajasthan so that dacoit affected areas of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh could be developed; and

(b) whether this energy could be used in electrification of the railways so that diesel energy is saved and its import could be reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Besides the four operating power stations (RAPE 1 to 4), construction of 2x220 MWe PHWR units (RAPE 5&6) is in advanced stage of completion at the Rawatbhata site in Rajasthan and these units are scheduled to start commercial operations in 2007-08. With a view to utilize the full potential of existing inland sites, Government of India has approved in principle setting up of two more reactors RAPP 7&8 (1400 MWe) at Rawatbhata, which is only 150 Kms. away from Banswara. No decision has been taken on any other site in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Mining of uranium in Meghalaya by UCIL

†1023. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uranium Corporation of India Limited is going to start mining of uranium in Meghalaya;

(b) if so, the quantity likely to be mined annually;

(c) whether uranium is also available in other parts of the country besides Meghalaya; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi